

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 EB-11 COME-00 INT-08 TRSE-00 FEA-02 AID-20

DRC-01 /151 W

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R 250941Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2520

INFO AMCONSUL NASSAU

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 0653

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, BF, NI

SUBJ: ENERGY: BAHAMAS/NIGERIA OIL TALKS

REF: NASSAU 0115

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. NIGERIAN GOVERNMENT PRESS RELEASE JANUARY 22 SAID
BAHAMIAN MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT MAYCOCK AND NIGERIAN
COMMISSIONER OF MINES AND POWER MONGUNO MET OVER THE WEEKEND
AND "AGREED ON THE POSSIBILITIES FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION
BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES" AND ADDED THAT "ONE AREA OF SUCH
COOPERATION IS IN A JOINT VENTURE IN THE OIL INDUSTRY."

END UNCLASSIFIED, BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

2. IT HAS BEEN ASSUMED LOCALLY THAT JOINT VENTURE REFERRED
TO INVOLVES SUPPLY OF NIGERIAN CRUDE OIL FOR REFINING IN
BAHAMAS AND EMBASSY HAS NO REASON TO DOUBT ACCURACY THIS
ASSUMPTION. WE ALSO ACCEPT POSSIBILITY THAT MINISTERS
DISCUSSED TRANSHIPMENT TERMINAL MENTIONED REFTEL.

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3. EMBASSY HAS ALSO LEARNED THAT CERTAIN ELEMENTS

WITHIN FMG ARE SEEKING SUBSTITUTE BAHAMIAN FIRM MONDOGAS
FOR AMERICAN FIRM GUADALUPE (SUBSIDIARY OF CRUTCHER RESOURCES)
IN NIGERIAN LPG PROJECT IN WHICH GUADALUPE HAS JOINT VENTURE
AGREEMENT WITH FMG. GUADALUPE, WHICH HAS BEEN PREVENTED FROM
IMPLEMENTING THE LPG PROJECT FOR SEVERAL MONTHS, FEARS THE
MINISTERIAL ACCOUNCEMENT MAY BE INTENDED TO CREATE SMOKE SCREEN
OF BILATERAL COOPERATION IN ORDER JUSTIFY BREACH OF EXISTING
AGREEMENT. MONDOGAS IS REPORTEDLY OPERATOR OF AN LPG TANKER
FLEET OWNED BY MOBIL OIL, P AND O LINES, AND OTHER NON-
BAHAMIAN INTERESTS. WHY IT SHOULD BE FAVORED OVER GUADALUPE
IS UNCLEAR; PRESUMABLY NIGERIANS ASSOCIATED WITH MONDOGAS ARE
CURRENTLY EXERTING GREATER INFLUENCE THAN NIGERIAN SUPPORTERS
OF THE GUADALUPE PROJECT.

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Message Attributes

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30 JUN 2005

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